

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 02/09/2000

To: Washington Field

From: Washington Field

NS-11

Contact: SA [REDACTED]

Approved By: [REDACTED]

Drafted By: [REDACTED]

Case ID #: [REDACTED] (Pending)

Title: [REDACTED]

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Synopsis: Summary of Iranian Trade Association (ITA) seminar.

Reference: [REDACTED]

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Enclosure(s): Enclosure 1: Seminar agenda and speakers' biographies. Enclosure 2: Excerpts from American Iranian Council (AIC) website.

Details: On 02/04/00, the writer attended an ITA hosted seminar, co-hosted by the AIC, held at 2168 Rayburn House Office Building, Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C. The purpose of the seminar was to heighten public awareness of the Iranian general elections to be held in Iran at the end of February and how these elections will impact US-Iran relations. In addition, the seminar was intended to increase discussion on Capitol Hill about the negative impact of the US embargo against Iran, as perceived by the ITA and AIC.

The meeting was attended by various congressional staffers, lobbyist staffers, and graduate students. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] respectively. Also present were [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] a representative of ITA who videotaped the seminar.

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CC: 1 - [REDACTED]  
1 - [REDACTED]  
1 - [REDACTED]

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JUDITH KIPPER, Center for Strategic and International Studies, believed Iran was not showing a willingness to open its borders to US business. She felt US business was not welcome under the current regime, which is why the upcoming general elections are critical. If moderates and reformists are elected, this will attract foreign investment. KIPPER also believed Iran clearly has the intent to produce nuclear weapons through its existing nuclear program. This point was not disputed by other guest speakers.

Professor ABBAS EDALAT, President of the American Refugee Committee, and founder of the Science & Arts Foundation (SAF). EDALAT noted how the majority of Iran's population was born after the Iranian takeover of the US embassy in Tehran and that the future of Iran lays in the hands of its youths. These youth have grown up in a period of great deprivation and isolation in Iran, as a result of US sanctions. They have not been exposed to necessary cross-cultural interaction, new technologies, and educational opportunities which are needed to mold a new, more moderate generation in Iran. Thus, EDALAT called for the US to invest in Iran's youth. This could largely be done by empowering them through access to the Internet, which would break down isolationism and fundamentalism within Iran. This is the primary purpose of the SAF, which has completed 22 Internet projects in Iranian schools in 1999 and has plans to complete 100 such projects in the year 2000.

Ambassador AMIR MAHALLATI, Search for Common Ground, opened his remarks by saying the US embargo was silly, counter-productive, and isolationist. He then moved on to addressing the upcoming general elections. He believed these elections were important to institutionalize the reform process in Iran, which he felt was very welcome in the country. He noted how even parties prevented from participating in the elections were not speaking negatively about them, which highlights the importance being placed on them by the entire country. MAHALLATI believed the lead up to the February elections has shown that there are no "infallibles in the election process." By this he meant candidates and parties are being criticized equally, which is vital to the democratic process. Similarly, there are no taboo issues or policies and everything is being discussed openly and vigorously. This openness and criticism is pushing right wing conservatives to the political center and new, less ideological political parties are emerging. Finally, the upcoming elections have spawned a greater sensitivity for a more open media, which has heightened public awareness and fostered political reform. The writer believes the purpose of these remarks was to legitimize February's democratic elections, promote the belief in

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Iran's reformation, and impress on people how Iran's form of democracy is of the same cloth as US democracy.

MAHALLATI discussed how he felt the February elections would impact Iranian foreign policy. He believed the next Iranian leadership would be more economically aware and more sensitive to the Iranian economy while determining foreign policy. He thought the issue of Israel is becoming irrelevant in Iran, but he admitted the Iranian government supports the terrorist activities of the Hezbollah and Hamas organizations. However, he called this affiliation minor and unimportant. He also mentioned how he believes support for Iran is gaining momentum in the Clinton administration, but is losing momentum in the US Congress.

Finally, MAHALLATI discussed what he termed a growing cultural appreciation for opposition within Iran. This appreciation will be supported by the newly-elected leadership. He accented this point by noting how Iranian Ministry of Intelligence and Security (MOIS) analysts have advised the current regime that any opposition to new political parties threatens national security. Having said this, MAHALLATI also noted he felt the new leadership would more carefully observe and question MOIS actions in light of evidence recently revealed showing MOIS involvement in killings within Iran.

♦♦

# **The Iranian Trade Association & The American Iranian Council**

Present:

## **"The Iranian Elections & The Future"**

February 4, 2000

Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C.

### **Agenda**

- 7:45 Registration & Continental Breakfast
- 8:10 Shahriar Afshar, ITA Introductory Remarks
- 8:20 John Radsan, AIC Introductory Remarks
- 8:30 Senator Arlen Specter (PA)  
Topic: "The View From the Hill"
- 9:00 Ambassador Robert Pelletreau, Afridi & Angell, AIC Chairman  
Topic: "The possible effects of the elections on US Policy toward Iran"
- 9:45 Coffee Break
- 10:00 Ambassador Amir Mahallati, Search for Common Ground  
Topic: "The Iranian elections and its impacts on Iranian policy toward the U.S."
- 10:20 Ms. Judith Kipper, Center for Strategic and International Studies  
Topic: "The election effects on American public perceptions about Iran and the continuing opportunities for track-two diplomacy"
- 10:40 Mr. Frank Kittredge, National Foreign Trade Council, USA ENGAGE  
Topic: "US corporate perspectives and concerns on the future of US-Iran relations"

#### Special announcements from:

- 11:00 Mr. Anthony J. Kozlowski, President, American Refugee Committee  
Topic: "ARC efforts to aid the Afghan and other refugees in Iran"
- 11:10 Professor Abbas Edalat, the Science & Arts Foundation, United Kingdom  
Topic: "Brining the internet to Iranian schools"
- 11:20 Panel Discussion - Q & A
- 11:40 AIC Concluding Remarks, John Radsan
- 11:50 ITA Concluding Remarks, Shahriar Afshar
- 12:00 Open Forum & Networking



## PENNSYLVANIA SENATOR ARLEN SPECTER

### B I O G R A P H Y

Arlen Specter, Pennsylvania's senior U.S. Senator, chairs the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee and is a senior member of the Appropriations Committee, the Judiciary Committee and the Government Affairs Committee. In the 104th Congress, he chaired the Senate Intelligence Committee.

Senator Specter is a legislative leader on education, health care, crime, drugs and terrorism. As chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee overseeing the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, he led the fight to increase NIH funding in the last three years by more than \$5 billion (currently at \$17.9 billion) and to reallocate in 1999 more than \$700 million to combat school juvenile violence by treating it as a national health problem under an action plan administered by the Surgeon General. In 1991, he helped create a separate Women's Health Unit at NIH. Senator Specter helped defeat the bureaucratic Clinton national health care plan, and has been pressing his own plan for incremental health care reform, focusing on portability and coverage for children. Senator Specter co-sponsored key domestic violence legislation. Senator Specter chairs the newly created Judiciary Subcommittee on Oversight of the Department of Justice, FBI and other federal agencies on Chinese espionage, campaign finance and Waco.

Senator Specter's Armed Career Criminal Act, signed into law in 1984 and expanded in 1986, carries a mandatory 15-year prison sentence for a career criminal found carrying a firearm, and has proven especially effective against major drug traffickers. His death penalty legislation streamlines the once-endless federal appeals process. A former prosecutor and investigator, Senator Specter led the Veterans Affairs Committee investigation in 1999 of Gulf War Illness (from possible exposure to chemical weapons) and in 1995 led the investigation of the killings at Ruby Ridge, Idaho, which prompted changes in FBI and ATF policy. He is currently leading the investigation of Gulf War Syndrome. In the only tangible legislative reform to come from the Iran-Contra scandal, he was responsible in 1989 for creating Inspectors General of the CIA, which in turn exposed Soviet mole Aldrich Ames, assassinations in Guatemala, and tainted Soviet materials passed to the President. A fiscal conservative, Senator Specter has pressed for the Balanced Budget Amendment and line-item veto, and was the first to introduce a flat-tax bill to lower federal taxes and simplify filing. He has also fought for assistance to farmers and for relief efforts in the wake of droughts, floods and the Avian Flu.

Arlen Specter began his public service career as an assistant Philadelphia District Attorney. He was appointed to the Warren Commission staff where he played a leading role in investigating the assassination of President Kennedy. During two terms as District Attorney, he helped restore death penalty statutes in Pennsylvania, fought for consumer fraud, cracked down on rape, and relentlessly prosecuted corrupt public officials.

Arlen Specter was born to immigrant parents in Wichita, KS, on Feb. 12, 1930, and grew up in the small town of Russell, KS. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Pennsylvania in 1951, then served stateside in the Air Force Office of Special Investigations for two years. He graduated in 1956 from Yale Law School, where he was an editor of the law journal.

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email: Senator\_Specter@Specter.senate.gov

## **ROBERT H. PELLETREAU**

The Hon. Robert H. Pelletreau served as Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, February 1994-January 1997. Prior to that time, he served as U.S. Ambassador to Egypt (1991-1993), to Tunisia (1987-1991) and to Bahrain (1979-1980). His other assignments in the Foreign Service included Algeria, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco and Syria as well as senior positions in the Departments of State and Defense. While in Tunisia, Ambassador Pelletreau conducted the U.S. dialogue with the P.L.O. (1988-1990). As Ambassador to Egypt, he joined the U.S. delegation to the 1991 Madrid Middle East Peace Conference, and as Assistant Secretary he traveled frequently to the region as a member of Secretary Christopher's Middle East negotiating team. During this period, he also played a key role in the development and implementation of U.S. policies toward North Africa, the Levant, Egypt and the Gulf, including Iraq and Iran.

Mr. Pelletreau attended the Institute of Political Studies in Paris, Yale University (B.A. 1957) and graduated from Harvard Law School in 1961. He practiced law with the New York firm Chadbourne & Parke before joining the Foreign Service. He is admitted to the bar in New York and the District of Columbia. On leaving government, he joined the international law firm of Afridi & Angell, with offices in New York, Washington, D.C., the United Arab Emirates and Pakistan.

Mr. Pelletreau speaks Arabic and French. He is married to Dr. Pamela Day Pelletreau (B.A., Smith College; Ph.D., George Washington University) and they have three children. Mr. Pelletreau is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the American and District of Columbia Bar Associations. His directorships include the Middle East Institute, the American-Iranian Council, AMIDEAST, Hannibal Club USA, the Tangier-American Legation Society and the Board of Advisors of the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University. He is also on the Board of EFG-Hermes, an Egyptian financial services company.

He received the Department of Defense Distinguished Civilian Service Medal in 1981, the Department of State Distinguished Honor Award in 1985, the Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service in 1987, and the American Foreign Service Association's Christian Herter Award in 1990. In 1997, he received the Department of State's Distinguished Service Award and also the Secretary's Career Achievement Award. He has been decorated by the Governments of Egypt and Tunisia.

### **Afridi & Angell**

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E-mail: [rpelletreau@afridi.com](mailto:rpelletreau@afridi.com)

Curriculum Vitae

Present Status:

1999 *Fellow, Center for Strategic and International Studies & Harvard University*  
*Washington, DC. and Cambridge*

Education:

*B.A. in Economics, National University of Iran.*  
*B.Sc. in Civil Engineering, University of Kansas.*  
*M.Sc. in Political Economy, University of Oregon.*

Experience  
(Select List):

1980-81 *Chairman of Economic Department, Kerman University,*  
*Kerman*  
1981 *Director General of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,*  
*Tehran*  
1981 *Charge d'Affairs of Mission of Iran to the United Nations,*  
*New York*  
1981-83 *Charge d'Affairs of the Mission of Iran to the United Nations,*  
*Geneva*  
1983-87 *Director General of International Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,*  
*Tehran*  
1987-89 *Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Iran to the United Nations,*  
*New York*  
1990-92 *Visiting Scholar, Middle East Institute, Columbia University,*  
*New York*  
1993-97 *Adjunct Professor of International Affairs, Columbia University,*  
*New York*  
1998 *Adjunct Professor of International Affairs, Georgetown & Yale Universities,*  
*Washington, DC. and New Haven*  
1998-99 *Visiting Professor of Transregional Studies, Princeton University,*  
*Princeton*

Other Activities:

Participated in many assemblies, sessions, meeting and conferences of the United Nations, UNESCO, UN High Commissioner for Refugees, World Health Organization, the Non-Aligned Summits, Disarmament (Conference Chair: February 1982), etc.  
Lectured at many Eastern and Western Universities, participated and delivered papers at many academic and non-academic conferences throughout the world :  
Membership in many organizations, centers, and committees including:  
*The Middle East Institute, Washington, D.C.*  
*Council on Foreign Relations ( Study Group on Iran)*  
*Search for Common Ground, Washington, D.C.*



**Judith Kipper**  
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Judith Kipper, an internationally recognized Middle East specialist, is director of the Council on Foreign Relations Middle East Forum and she is co-director of the Middle East Studies program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. Kipper is a consultant on international affairs to ABC News. Previously, she was a guest scholar at The Brookings Institution and a resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. She travels frequently to the Middle East visiting both Israel and Arab countries. She also meets regularly with officials and others in Russia and other countries of the former Soviet Union.

Kipper is the co-editor of The Middle East in Global Perspective (Westview Press, 1991); and supervised The West Bank Data Project: A Survey of Israel's Policies, and The Arab-Israeli Military Balance and the Art of Operations. She contributes to publications such as *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, and *The Washington Post* and comments on television and radio in the United States, Europe, Japan, China and the Middle East. She speaks frequently to university, business, economic, and banking groups on Middle Eastern and international affairs. She has briefed The Brookings Institution Board of Trustees, Council on Foreign Relations Corporate Program, Chase Manhattan Bank Board, Institutional Investor Council, Lockheed Corporation, Mobil Oil Corporation, Shell Oil Company, World Trade Institute and many other institutions in the United States and internationally.

During the Gulf crisis, Kipper testified as an expert witness before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the House Armed Services Committee, the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and the House Appropriations Committee. She was with Peter Jennings of ABC News in Baghdad, Iraq for an extensive interview with President Saddam Hussein (November, 1990). She arrived with Ted Koppel of ABC News in Kuwait just after its liberation. She also went to Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Syria, Egypt, Israel, the West Bank and Gaza during the Gulf Crisis. Kipper was in Moscow for an ABC News interview with President Gorbachev in July, 1991 which she negotiated and again right after the August coup for the ABC News Town Meeting with Gorbachev and Yeltsin.

Kipper has broad based experience in international relations. She worked in Paris at the French newsweekly L'Express for six years. She drove from Paris to India where she spent six months and then spent a year in Israel and Egypt before returning to the United States. She is on the board of Middle East Watch, a human rights organization; and Initiative for Peace and Cooperation in the Middle East.

# NATIONAL FOREIGN TRADE COUNCIL, INC.

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**FRANK D. KITTREDGE**  
**President**  
**National Foreign Trade Council, Inc.**

Mr. Kittredge is President of the National Foreign Trade Council, an association, founded in 1914, that is a leading proponent in the private sector for an open international trade and investment regime. Mr. Kittredge is also Vice-Chairman of USA★ENGAGE, a coalition of over 675 small and large businesses, agriculture groups and trade associations working to seek alternatives to the proliferation of unilateral U.S. foreign policy sanctions and to promote the benefits of U.S. engagement abroad.

An international business executive, Mr. Kittredge previously served with the General Electric Company. His 36-year career involved numerous international assignments in Europe, Latin America and the Far East, including Vice President of GE's Asia-Pacific Division and Vice President of their Power Systems International Sales Operation. Mr. Kittredge is a past-chairman of the U.S.-ASEAN Center for Technology Exchange, and a former-director of the Singapore Trade Development Board. He is a member of the State Department's Advisory Committee on International Economic Policy and serves on the Advisory Board of the Trade Law Study Group. He is a director of Crane and Company, Inc., the National U.S.-Arab Chamber of Commerce, the Center for Mental Health and the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum. An engineering graduate of Yale University, Mr. Kittredge served as an officer in the U.S. Navy prior to joining GE. He has served as NFTC President and a director of the organization since 1989, is married and resides in Washington, D.C. and Easton, MD.

## **ANTHONY J. KOZLOWSKI**

### **President and CEO**

#### **American Refugee Committee**

The American Refugee Committee (ARC) works for the survival, health, and well-being of refugees, displaced persons, and those at risk, and seeks to enable them to rebuild productive lives of dignity and purpose, striving always to respect the values of those served. ARC is an international nonprofit, non-sectarian organization which has provided multisectoral humanitarian assistance and training to hundreds of thousands of beneficiaries for over twenty years.

ARC was founded in 1978 by Chicago businessman Neal Ball. Asked by a friend to sponsor a refugee, Ball assumed he would be sending in a small check each month and receive a standard thank-you letter and photo each year. Instead, he received a call 30 days later, telling him that Phoungueune Sananikone, a refugee from Laos, would soon be at the airport in Chicago. When Phoungueune arrived, neither he nor Ball knew exactly what a sponsor was. And only Phoungueune had a clear idea of what it meant to be a refugee.

Ball soon learned that for Phoungueune and so many others, being a "refugee" meant many things:

- not only being far from home, but not having a home;
- not only being in a new country, but not having the full rights and security of any country;
- not only being separated from family members, but not knowing where many of them were or if they would ever be seen again.
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Together the two began a five-year effort to locate and reunite Phoungueune's family. Though Ball didn't realize it then, a commitment had been made—one which became the American Refugee Committee. Ball's compassionate response to urgent refugee needs became ARC's hallmark. This response was repeated by other concerned business and community leaders who joined with Ball to create ARC, a humanitarian assistance organization that bases its relationship with uprooted peoples on mutual respect, a compassionate exchange of knowledge and values, and a vibrant hope for realizing a better future. ARC first worked with the resettlement of refugees who fled conflict in Southeast Asia. In 1979, ARC sent its first teams of medical and other specialists to refugee sites in Thailand to provide direct primary health care and training to refugees from Cambodia. ARC's program in Thailand expanded to include multiple sites, as well as the provision of psychosocial services and resettlement assistance.

ARC responded to war and famine in Ethiopia in 1985 by assisting refugees who had fled to Sudan. In 1988, ARC further expanded to assist refugees from Mozambique who had sought asylum in Malawi. As the global refugee crisis exploded in the 1990s, ARC expanded its activities, particularly in Africa and in Europe, to provide urgently needed humanitarian assistance.

#### **ARC International Headquarters USA**

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**Professor Abbas Edalat**  
**Founder of the Science & Arts Foundation**  
**Department of Computing**  
**Imperial College**  
**London SW7 2BZ, U.K.**  
**<http://www.doc.ic.ac.uk/~ae>**

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**Short Biography of Dr. Edalat:**

- Hadaf and Alborz High School.
- Mathematics Graduate of Imperial College.
- Postgraduate work at Berkeley and Warwick (PhD in Mathematics, 1986)
- Lecturer in the Department of Mathematical Sciences at Sharif University, Tehran (1987-88)
- Postdoc, Lecturer and Reader at the Department of Computing, Imperial College (1989-1997).
- Professor of Computer Science and Mathematics at Imperial College since October 1997.

**About the Science & Arts Foundation**

The Science and Art Foundation (SAF), which was set up as an educational no-profit-making educational charity on 1st March 1999, aspires for such an ideal future world. It believes that progress in education, communication, research and development based on information technology and the Internet in the third world is the vital key to solving the developmental problems in the third world as well as the global and regional problems facing humanity. SAF also maintains that the globalization of all human activities, exemplified by the applications of the Internet, has prepared the ground for a worldwide campaign to equip the younger generations of the developing world with the new and empowering information technologies enjoyed by the youth in the West. By acting now, this vision is within our reach.

You can get on the SAF mailing list by contacting: [info@science-arts.org](mailto:info@science-arts.org)

For more information in UK, please contact:

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## MISSION & BACKGROUND | PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES | ADMINISTRATION

### Mission and Background

The American Iranian Council (AIC) was founded in 1997 as a nonprofit and tax-exempt educational organization for the purpose of:

- Promoting dialogue and improved relations between the peoples and governments of the United States and Iran.
- Supporting efforts to construct a civil society in Iran.
- Encouraging the participation of the Iranian-American community in formulation of US policy toward Iran.

To this end, AIC has:

- Brought together on its Board of Directors and Advisory Council a distinguished group of American, Iranian and Iranian-American individuals from the academic, business, and policy communities.
- Sponsored a series of high-visibility conferences and public forums.
- Published and disseminated several ground-breaking studies.
- Challenged decision makers and opinion leaders both in the United States and Iran to lower the volume of rhetoric and raise the level of debate on the future of relations between the two countries.

The Council has no government affiliation and receives no government funding.

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### Programs and Activities

AIC continues to sponsor public forums on relations between the two countries including a recently launched **Distinguished Speaker Series**. The first speaker in this series, former US Secretary of State and current AIC Honorary Chairman, Cyrus Vance, called for an immediate resumption of diplomatic, if not necessarily friendly, relations between the two countries in an address before The Asia Society in New York in January 1999. As follow up, the Council has organized a high-level **Iran Policy Committee** to pursue and promote Secretary Vance's proposals.

**Project.** Both the United States and Iran agree on the importance of interdiction of narcotics; indeed, Tehran's success in reducing drug traffic through its territory from Afghanistan to the West has been publicly acknowledged and praised by Washington. If properly structured, collaborative efforts at narcotics traffic control could be an important first step in building confidence while addressing a serious social problem in the two countries. Special emphasis will be placed on engaging parliamentarians and legislators in this project.

The other initiative is the **Second Generation Iranians Project**. Over one million Iranians and Iranian-Americans now live in the United States, many born since the Islamic Revolution. Few have set foot in Iran and while curious, are largely uninformed about developments in that country. The population of Iran is a young one; more than half of the 65 million population was born in the last 20 years. Few have travelled outside the country and, again, while curious, have little knowledge of and exposure to the outside world. AIC believes that a bridge of understanding and cooperation should be built between these two groups of second generation Iranians now separated by geography, culture and education. Efforts will be made to identify and bring together young leaders representing a variety of fields in the two communities.

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#### Administration

The affairs of AIC are administered by a Board of Directors consisting of Honorary Chairman, Honorary Cochairman, Chairman, President, Treasurer, Secretary, Legal Counsel, and Board Members. The organization is also guided by an Advisory Council. The daily affairs of AIC are carried out by an Executive Director and an office assistant.

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Co-Director,  
Middle Eastern Studies, CSIS  
Ambassador M. J. Mahafati  
Visiting Scholar, CSIS

Ambassador Richard W. Murphy  
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Ambassador Nicholas Platt  
President  
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John J. Roberts  
Senior Adviser  
American International Group

Gary Sick  
Director, Gulf 2000 Project  
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Professor

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Executive Director  
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Richard Falk  
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Princeton University

Richard Frye  
Professor Emeritus  
Harvard University

Ambassador W. Nathaniel Howell  
Professor  
University of Virginia

John H. Lichtblau  
Chairman  
Petroleum Industry Research  
Foundation

Gary Marfin  
Manager, Government Affairs  
Conoco, Inc.

Ehsan Naraghi  
Special Advisor



Harvard University  
David Newsom  
Professor  
University of Virginia

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10 Director General, UNESCO

William B. Quandt  
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### Upcoming Events

#### "Iran and the United States:

#### The Prospect for a New Relationship"

A discussion with Hooshang Amirahmadi

President, American Iranian Council

*New York, Asia Society*

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

#### "Women in Iranian Politics"

A lecture and discussion with H.E. Faezeh Hashemi Rafsanjani

Member of Parliament, Islamic Republic of Iran

*New York, Asia Society*

*Date to be announced.*

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### Previous Events

1. **US-Iran Relations: Has The Time Come?**  
*New York, Asia Society, January 1999*
2. **Revisiting the Hostage Crisis: A Captive Meets His Captor**  
*Paris, July 1998 (Sponsored by Center for World Dialogue)*
3. **US-Iran Relations in Clinton's Second Term: International Perspectives**  
*Washington, D.C., April 1997*
4. **Iranian Elections and Implications for US-Iran Relations**  
*Washington, D.C., May 1997*
5. **Understanding US-Iran Relations**  
*Washington, D.C., June 1996*
6. **Revisiting Iran's Strategic Significance in the Emerging Regional Order**  
*Washington, D.C., April 1995*
7. **US-Iran Relations: Areas of Tension and Mutual Interest**  
*Washington, D.C., September 1993*
8. **The Clinton Administration and the Future of US-Iran Relations**  
*Washington D.C., January 1993*

Proceedings of most these events are available from AIC. See Publications

<http://www.american-iranian.org/htmdoc/NEWSEV.HTM>

2/2/00

To: Washington Field From: Washington Field  
Re: [redacted] 02/09/2000

b7E

and [redacted] who represented [redacted]  
Opening remarks were made by [redacted] the captioned  
investigation, [redacted]

b6  
b7C

[redacted] A summary of each guest speaker's comments  
is provided below.

Senator ARLEN SPECTER was unable to attend the seminar  
due to a other priority commitments.

Ambassador ROBERT PELLETREAU, AIC Chairman, called for  
greater cooperation between the US and Iran to stop terrorism,  
nuclear proliferation, and international drug trafficking. He  
believed it was reasonable for the US to suspect Iran's  
cooperation in addressing these issues as a show of good faith  
and a desire for closer relations between the two countries.  
However, he did not suggest the US step back from national  
interests within the region or the Israeli peace process. He  
believed the US should open diplomatic relations with Iran, and  
if this could not be done officially, then it was up to small  
private groups, such as ITA and AIC, to begin the liaison  
process. PELLETREAU called for the US to begin allowing Iranian  
consumer exports into the US, which would further a cooperative  
spirit between the two countries and enhance the sharing of food  
and medical services to Iran. He also called for the US to be  
more open to visitation by Iranian citizens. He wished to see a  
"quick check" system for checking Iranian passports and end the  
"humiliating fingerprinting" of all Iranian visitors to the US.

FRANK KITTREDGE, National Foreign Trade Council, spoke  
on the impact of the US embargo on American business. As a  
businessman, KITTREDGE believed the sanctions were ineffective  
and equally as harmful to the US as it is to Iran. He said the  
embargo brands US businesses as not being able to stand by their  
consumers by following up on their business promises. This is  
because Iranians are using US products, but cannot get customer  
support or replacement products, as afforded to consumers outside  
of Iran. As a result, Iranians are skeptical of US companies and  
are pushed toward the competitors of US businesses. KITTREDGE  
sees the US sanctions as isolating Iran, thus antagonizing the  
ill-feelings. He believes the sanctions are keeping Iran at arms  
length and, in doing so, prevents the US from having a positive  
impact in Iran. He called for a politically safe policy of  
trade, which would not leave US businesses at risk of having to  
falter on any future business initiatives started in Iran. He  
believed the US should mirror its embargo policy used against  
Vietnam, in which businesses could sign contracts in Vietnam,  
contingent on the eventual lifting of the embargo.